Indiana House of Representatives

News and Information

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BROWN CO-AUTHOR OF BILLS PASSED OUT OF HOUSE, ANOTHER PASSED OUT OF COMMITTEE

INDIANAPOLIS – Today State Rep. Charlie Brown (D-Gary) had two bills pass out of the Indiana House and one approved in committee.

House Bill 1358, passed by the House Public Health Committee, would eliminate the requirement for women under 50 to be tested for rubella when applying for a marriage license. The legislation will now be heard by the full House.

"This is worthwhile legislation for the health care system," said Brown. "The rubella test requirement is archaic and creates unnecessary work for women getting marriage licenses and for the clerks who have to file the paperwork."

House Bill 1098, co-authored by Brown, would allow pharmacies to return expired prescription drugs to drug wholesalers and manufacturers. The measure would encourage pharmacies to stock hard-to-find drugs for customers which could then be returned if there was an excess of the prescription. In the past, the pharmacy would have to eat the costs for the extra pills, commented Brown. House Bill 1098 was passed by a vote of 92 - 1.

The second bill Brown co-authored would require a physician to provide information to patients when referring them to a medical establishment in which the physician has a financial interest. House Bill 1306 was passed 95 - 0 by the House.

"If a physician has a vested interest in recommending that a patient have a medical test, this legislation will ensure that the physician would be kept honest," said Brown. "This way, the patient will know for sure that they need to have the test and it's not just being recommended for the financial benefit of the physician."

House Bill 1098 and 1306 will now both be sent to the Senate for consideration.